



# St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:  
By pre-registration only until further notice

## CONTACT US

The Parish Office is open reduced hours, but the doors remain locked. Please phone ahead. We continue to take the necessary precautions to keep our parishioners and employees safe & healthy. You may phone/email the office Monday to Thursday between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

Pastor.....Fr. Louis Nguyen 306.782.0323 [louisyorkton@gmail.com](mailto:louisyorkton@gmail.com)

Parish Office Administrator.....Sandra Archer  
Caretaker.....Mario Guerra

## MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (26<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Tues. (27<sup>th</sup>) 7:00pm +Tony Spykerman  
Wed. (28<sup>th</sup>) **7:00pm** +Blaine Bigoraj  
Thurs. (29<sup>th</sup>) 9:00am +Mary Brazeau  
Fri. (30<sup>th</sup>) 9:00am +Richard Osika  
Sat. ( 1<sup>st</sup>) 9:00am *Memorial Mass*  
+Andre Turgeon

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5:00pm +Rose Banga  
7:00pm +Darlene Bernath

Sun. ( 2<sup>nd</sup>) **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
9:00am Mass for the People  
11:00am +Andre Turgeon  
5:00pm

**Come and Spend an Hour  
with the Lord!**



Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion  
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- **Pre-registration for Saturday/Sunday Mass is required.** Online at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) beginning Monday morning until all seats are reserved or until Thursday at 12 noon (whichever comes first.)
- Each household must register separately
- **Maximum 30** people may attend Mass
- Members of the same household may sit together at the marked seating
- At least two-metres separation is required between households at all times, even with masks on. **Please arrive early.**
- *Please follow the instructions of the Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) and Father Louis.*
- The following must stay home for the sake of the wider community:
  - ❖ People with COVID-19 symptoms, who live with someone with COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
  - ❖ Those who have travelled to/from a "hotspot", outside of Saskatchewan or outside Canada within the last 14 days
  - ❖ Those who are waiting for COVID-19 test results, or have someone in their household waiting for test results



Stay  
Connected  
Online!

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Risen Lord, you are the Good Shepherd who watches over us and protects us from all harm. Give me the courage to be a loving shepherd and advocate for the poor and vulnerable.

- From *Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost*  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

## A Note from Your Pastor ....

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This weekend we celebrate the Good Shepherd and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We hear in the Gospel the message of the shepherd and his flock. It is comforting to remember that we are the sheep who have a loving shepherd who would lay down his life for us.

Jesus was born in the Jewish community, and became their Messiah in accordance with God's promise to His chosen people. However, God is not satisfied to save only one people, one nation; He wants his salvation to reach all nations. This message needs to be proclaimed to the ends of the earth.

And that is why Jesus says in the Gospel, *"I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold; I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice, so they will be one flock, one shepherd"*. Indeed, Christ is the Savior, the Good Shepherd. He has received lordship not only over the little flock of Israel and Judah, but overall the flocks of the entire world.

We are all under the protection of one Good Shepherd, who is the one pastor of the one flock.

The effect of the wolf, the devil, is to catch and scatter the sheep; but Christ, the Good Shepherd frees and unites us. Even if the wolf attacks the shepherd himself (as we see in Christ's Passion), the shepherd has the power to both lay down and raise up his life, so the one flock will never perish. Because Christ the Good Shepherd is our Lord, the Church - the one flock - will never fail.

As sheep of His flock we are all called to spread the Good News of Christ and to "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28.19), bringing everyone into this one flock.

We remember the words he says to Thomas, "I am the Way; and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14.6). And similar to these words, Peter says in the First Reading this weekend: "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among human beings by which we must be saved."

Our duty is to share the Gospel message and gather the scattered sheep of the world into Christ's own one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I would like to recommend three ways in which we can help increase the size of Christ's one flock, to help other lost sheep come under the care of the one Good Shepherd:

First, in the way we treat other people. Remember that we are all children of God. And because of this, the way that we share with others needs to be full of dignity, generosity, openness, and joy. If we let God's grace work in our hearts, it will shine through our faces, our eyes, our words, our gestures, and we will become spokespersons for our eternal Good Shepherd.

Second, in our actions. Whatever we do - work, study, pursue a hobby, do housework, take part in sport activities - we, as followers of Christ, need to stand out as responsible, dependable, and for our commitment to excellence and integrity.

Third, in our words. Like Peter in today's First Reading, we need to always be ready to use our words to spread truth, hope, and encouragement, to light or feed the fire of faith in the hearts of those around us. As Christians, there is no room in our lives for gossip, or biting and wounding criticism.



My dear sisters and brothers, we are blessed and we are graced to be members of Christ's one flock, his Catholic Church. I have a dream that when the Covid pandemic is over, every weekend the Masses at our own St. Gerard's Church will welcome so many people that we will be "bursting at the seams".

We invite and welcome people to come back to be with Him, to meet with Him, and to be with one another, for in each Mass Jesus renews His commitment to us as a Good Shepherd, that is, to lay down his life for His sheep.

Let us thank Jesus, and let us promise that this week we will try not to keep the Good News all to ourselves, but to proclaim it in our daily lives in word and deed.

Have a blessed week and enjoy warm weather. Love you all.



Fr. Louis Nguyen



### News from the Knights of Columbus

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Start of weekly Rosary – Mondays at 5:30pm (Max. 30 people)  
May 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Meeting (Virtual) at 7pm  
May 7<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Novena for Life  
May 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March for Life (Virtual)

*If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)*



### News from the CWL

#### Webinar on Palliative Care

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is pleased to offer a webinar session on palliative care during National Hospice and Palliative Care Week, May 3-9, 2021. Due to the passing of recent federal legislation that expands the availability of Canadians to access medical assistance in dying, it is important to be educated about palliative care and how Catholics can maintain their faith beliefs respecting life from birth to natural death.


Simone Stenekes is a clinical nurse specialist with the palliative care program of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. She has been working in palliative care for over 21 years. In her current role Simone cares for patients and their families, acts as a resource to health care teams, provides education and also involved in research.

**Date: Saturday, May 8, 2021**  
**Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am (SK time)**

Presenter: Simone Stenekes, Clinical Nurse Specialist. Topic: Overview of Palliative Care in Canada and end-of-life care.

**REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH THE NATIONAL WEBSITE AT [cwl.ca](http://cwl.ca)**

This presentation is open to everyone, family, friends, co-workers. All are welcome.



The Knights of Columbus  
will lead the  
Rosary Prayer  
Mondays at 5:30pm  
during the month of May.

Everyone welcome! (Max. 30)

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables of Jesus deal with money. One out of ten verses in the New Testament deals with that subject. Scripture offers about five hundred verses on prayer, fewer than five hundred on faith, and over two thousand on money. The believer's attitude toward money and possessions is determinative. - John F. MacArthur Jr

- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee



# Bringing Home the Word

## A Love-Filled Sacrifice

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

At the center of his painting, *Hands of the Crucified*, Renato Guttuso (1912-1987) places the piercing reality of pain represented by the hand of Jesus. The dark reds, blacks, and blues give way to the brightness of the oranges, yellows, and whites. This choice of palette is purposeful. Death is depicted with the same palette as a sunset, when darkness closes in on the light. But then night gives way to the colors of the sunrise when new life springs forth. The brutal darkness that leads to his death is replaced by the light-giving act of the love of God.

The Good Shepherd also shows the beauty of this love-filled sacrifice. This is why the Father loves Jesus; because he lays down his life for us. He has the power to do so and does it freely. This is because the Shepherd's mission and vocation is centered on the good of the sheep. They are the center of his daily cares and concerns. Jesus tells us that you and I are the utter focus of his heart and life. You are worth it. It is a beautiful thing to be loved by someone. Imagine if this someone is God himself.

As modern as this painting looks, the artist honors a traditional symbol. Byzantine art often depicted the blood from Jesus' side falling into a chalice to connect the passion of Jesus with the eucharistic sacrifice. Notice that the artist does the same by showing the blood falling into a simple chalice with a host at its center.

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## Today is the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O God, who has chosen the Apostles, to make disciples of all nations, and who, by Baptism and Confirmation, has called upon all of us to build up Your holy church.

We earnestly implore You to choose from among us, Your children, many priests, deacons and religious brothers and sisters who will love You with their whole heart,

and who will gladly spend their entire lives, to make You known and loved by all. Amen.

## Catechism Theme: Christ Offered Himself to the Father (CCC 606-609)

The Resurrection was a mere aspect of Christ's self-giving mission. Jesus came from the Father (his birth). He did the Father's will on earth (his ministry). And he gave himself back to the Father (his death, resurrection, and ascension). In every step, he loved and gave all for others. In every step, Jesus revealed the face of the Father to the world.

Notice Jesus was not only the intermediary. He embodied the Father's offer of love and our positive response. That is the reason his death forgave sins once and for all. In his death, we find the Father's love for us and we find our perfect response to that love. He did it all for us. We could never add to or improve upon his sacrifice.

*Have you ever felt the Lord lift your burden? Or the loving care of the Lord? Describe this experience.*


Jesus gave his all for us. He did it for love. The love he had for the Father. The love he had for all people. In that love he claimed his place as the Good Shepherd.

We are to shepherd in the same fashion, to sacrifice out of love. We are to lead by giving of self for the good of others. More important, we are to lead in a way that brings others to Christ and through Christ to the Father. So we can lead in this fashion, we need to sacrifice self interest and ego. But the rewards of love make that sacrifice worth the cost.

*What sacrifices have you had to make to lead others to Christ? What sacrifices are you willing to make now? Look to the next week. Plan your sacrifice for the good of others.*

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S	R	L	F	O	W	O	R	D	S	GOOD	SHEPHERD	SHEEP	WOLF
N	P	E	E	H	S	C	E	S	C	VOICE	ABANDONS	FATHER	LEAD
O	D	P	W	D	I	R	H	D	A	FLOCK	WILL	POWER	COMMAND
D	E	E	A	O	I	E	T	N	T				
N	A	E	V	H	P	F	A	A	T				
A	L	S	C	H	F	I	F	M	R				
B	A	L	E	I	F	L	G	M	E				
A	T	R	I	O	O	D	O	O	G				
R	D	L	L	W	I	V	O	C	S				
S	R	E	T	T	A	C	S	D	K				



**St. Gerard Parish**  
**Comparative Income Statement to March 31, 2021**

	2021	2020	Change		2021	2020	Change
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Collections	59,553	58,701	852	Hall:			
Other (Donations, rel. articles)	1,261	4,348	-3,087	Wages, Salaries, etc.	2,692	3,219	-527
Perogies & cabbage rolls (net)	3,136	2829	-1,213	Catering	146	2,762	-2,616
Annual Fall Supper (net)	0	0	0	Administrative Expenses	0	76	-76
Catering	0	4,791	-4,791	Total Hall	2,838	6,057	-3,219
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>63,950</b>	<b>70,669</b>	<b>-6,719</b>				
Building Fund Donations	1,485	1,846	-361	Rectory	2,658	2,586	71
Trust Fund Donations	0	0	0				
Federal Wage Subsidy Program	4,198	0	4,198	<b>COMMITTEE EXPENSES</b>			
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>69,633</b>	<b>72,515</b>	<b>-2,882</b>	Family & Social	0	0	0
				Ecumenical	0	0	0
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				Liturgy	1,227	1,733	-506
Pastoral	224	75	149	Stewardship	0	0	0
Parish Office	2,623	2,700	-78	Religious Education	76	812	-736
Other Administrative Expenses	15,901	5,140	10,761	Social Justice	0	182	-182
COVID-19 Expenses	357	24	334	Youth	0	0	0
Diocesan Assessments	12,600	12,750	-150	Community Life	0	0	0
Wages, Salaries, etc.	18,207	30,320	-12,113	Public Relations	0	0	0
Building:				Pastoral & Finance Council	0	11	-11
Sask Energy	2,815	3,026	-211	Refugee Family Committee (net)	0	0	0
Sask Power	3,047	4,090	-1,043	Cemetery Expense	150	0	150
Water	262	707	-445	Total Committee Expenses	1,453	2,738	-1,285
Property Taxes	0	3,000	-3,000				
Insurance	5,921	4,818	1,103	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>72,827</b>	<b>85,186</b>	<b>-12,359</b>
Parking Lot	982	4,495	-3,513				
Garbage/recycling	194	398	-204	<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>(\$3,194)</b>	<b>(\$12,671)</b>	<b>\$9,477</b>
Repairs & maintenance	2,746	2,261	485				
Total Building	15,967	22,795	-6,828				

Notes:

- Effective January 1, 2021 compensation to the Parish Priest is paid by the Archdiocese, with the parish paying a monthly contract amount to the Archdiocese.
- Effective January 1, 2021 the following expenses have been re-categorized as "Other Administrative Expenses":

Bank Charges      Collection Envelopes      Review Engagement      Priest Contract

*Approved by Parish Council*

## YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH – CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

With the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as Patron Saint of the Universal Church, the entire People of God is invited to undertake the interior path of the carpenter of Nazareth, so as to “*increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal.*”

- Pope Francis, Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*, on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of saint Joseph as patron of the Universal Church.

### A Consecration to Saint Joseph

By entrusting ourselves completely to the fatherly care and powerful intercession of the Church’s patron saint, we are beseeching his help in living out those same virtues he did and so grow in the likeness of Christ evermore. We consecrate our lives and all those dear to us to him as to a spiritual father who shows us the Fatherhood of God Himself and we place ourselves in his loving care so as to better witness our faith and live lives pleasing to God and in service to our sisters and brothers.

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

(Standing before your image,)

O loving and humble Saint Joseph,  
Protector of the Holy Family and Patron of the Universal Church  
and of Canada,

I honour you as the model of Christian virtues  
and consecrate myself to you  
as my protector and guide in living a truly Christian life.  
Following your example, I dedicate my life to the service of  
Christ,  
that all my actions will be for the praise and glory of God,  
the advancement of Christ’s mission on earth  
and the good of all people.

Draw me closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
that in my vocation I may know the peace and joy of a holy life.

As you were privileged to embrace Mary and Jesus in your loving arms,  
so be present to me and my brothers and sisters and show forth your tenderness,  
as I raise my eyes to you who shine forth

before our community as a merciful and compassionate companion,  
and one who knows the burdens weighing heavily on our hearts.

Come quickly to the aid of the Church and this Country, O Good Saint Joseph,  
and deliver us from the dangers that surround us in our hour of need;

watch over the elderly, the weak and the infirm,  
our children and families, whether at home or away.

Sustain those who give of themselves selflessly  
in pastoral and health care to those in need  
so that with your powerful intercession

we will all find safety and solace in the Lord  
and come at last to the glory of our eternal home. **Amen.**



## YOUTH REFLECTION

### "The Good Shepherd"

#### This Week...

God loves all of us. We are all God's children. Even the rejected stones can be cornerstones in building God's Kingdom. Jesus is the good shepherd who knows his sheep and cares deeply for all of them. He lays his life down for all of us, even the most rejected ones.

#### For Your Reflection

- Have you ever taken care of sheep, horses, cattle, or any other animal? Describe the experience.
- Have you ever been to a ranch or farm? If so, what are the responsibilities of the rancher? What sacrifices must a rancher make?
- In what situations have you felt like the responsible one, the one in charge? In what situations have you felt more like the one who is cared for and led around? What are the good points and bad points of each situation?
- What do you think Jesus is talking about when he says he is the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep? What do you think Jesus wants us to do as followers of a Saviour who lays down his life for those who depend on him?

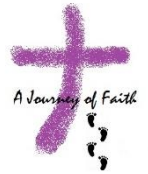
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* - St. Mary's Press, 2004



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join us in the RCIA journey. It is a warm, welcoming experience that introduces the Christian faith in our Roman Catholic tradition. We explore topics such as Holy Scripture, the Sacraments, Church history and the core beliefs of the Church. Anyone who has taken this "leap of faith" has found it to be a life-altering experience.

The RCIA process is intended for those who are non-baptized. There are several rites and stages that are part of the process to prepare adults for Baptism and to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

**Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church.** If you have been baptized in another Christian tradition, the Catholic Church respects that baptism. Baptism is the sacrament of our rebirth in Christ and our immersion into His saving death and Resurrection. It can never be repeated. Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church happens after a period of preparation through catechesis, prayer and worship, and an introduction to Catholic life, values, and mission.



**Adults who have been baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation** can prepare for reception of this sacrament through a period of catechesis and prayer.

If you are interested in this journey of faith, please contact Fr. Louis at 306.782.2449 or 306.782.0323.

*And to all our friends in St. Gerard's parish, we remind you that we all have a responsibility to share our faith and bring others to Christ. If you know of a family member, friend, co-worker or fellow student who is searching for a deeper meaning in their life, let them know about RCIA.*

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## LOST SOMETHING?



**Mitts, toques, etc.** – check the literature display drawer marked "Lost and Found" in the Welcome Area.

**Books, religious articles, jewellery, etc.** – contact the Parish Office.

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## OFFERING A MASS

The offering of a Mass in the name of a deceased family member or friend is one of the greatest ways to keep our beloved dead in our living memory. At each celebration of the Mass, the great prayer of sacrifice is made complete as Jesus' life, death and resurrection is offered to God the Father. When we offer a Mass for a particular person, we ask that in a special way the individual be remembered by the priest who offers up the great sacrifice on behalf of the whole community of faith. In a very real and active way, the life, death and resurrection of the person remembered becomes present and is offered up with Jesus. Each time we offer up a Mass for someone, living or dead, we celebrate the greatest gift of our faith – the gift of Everlasting Life in Christ.

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**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** is available daily at the EADM Centre Chapel at 484 Hamilton St. Regina. Hours: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm on Monday through Thursday. Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please help us keep Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available in Regina on a daily basis.

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## The Healing and Growth Centre St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission

**St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission** – Searching for God's purpose in your life? Want to live life more fully, and take your faith to the next level? Then, come to St. Therese! At St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission, adults of all ages can explore their faith, discern their vocation in life, foster their prayer life and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Visit on line at [www.sttherese.ca](http://www.sttherese.ca)

### **Rachel's Vineyard: a psychological and spiritual journey for healing after abortion.**

Are you hurting because of an abortion? **Rachel's Vineyard** is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. For more information, please contact Elaine at 1.306.480.8911 or email [r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net](mailto:r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net)

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY** offers distance education courses for adults seeking faith formation for personal and professional development: ***Diploma in Ministry; Certificate in Lay Ministry; Come Let Us Worship: A course in liturgical foundations; Certificate in Spirituality; and Diploma in Intellectual Disability Studies.***

For an information package please contact Continuing & Distance Education, St. Francis Xavier University, toll free 1-877-867-5562, [diplomainministry@stfx.ca](mailto:diplomainministry@stfx.ca)